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APRIL 5, 1806.

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Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

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## A Bill,

Respecting the claims to land in the Indiana territory and state of Ohio.

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1    Sec. 1. *BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of*  
2 *the United States of America, in congress assembled,* That the regis-  
3 ters and receivers of public monies of the districts of Vincennes  
4 and Kaskaskias, respectively, be, and they are hereby authorized  
5 and empowered, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury,  
6 to lay out one or more tracts of land, in their respective districts,  
7 for the purpose of locating therein, tracts of land granted by virtue  
8 of any legal French or British grants, or of any resolution or act of  
9 congress: *Provided,* that the tracts thus laid out shall be adjoining  
10 the tracts which, in conformity with former laws, had been laid out  
11 for similar purposes by the governors of the north-west or Indiana  
12 territories; and the tracts thus laid out shall not be otherwise dis-  
13 posed of unless by order of congress.

1    Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That any person or persons  
 2 entitled to grants of land by virtue of any former resolution or act  
 3 of congress, which are not specifically designated in the patents is-  
 4 sued by the governors aforesaid, or which have not yet been located,  
 5 shall have a right to locate the same, in the tract or tracts to be laid  
 6 out in each district respectively, by virtue of the preceding sec-  
 7 tion; the priority of such location shall be determined by lot in pre-  
 8 sence of the register of the land office, with whom the location  
 9 shall be entered: and the surveyor general shall cause the same to  
 10 be surveyed at the expense of the parties: *Provided,* that all the  
 11 lands thus located, shall, in each tract laid out for that purpose, be  
 12 laid out in a body without leaving any intervals of vacant land, and  
 13 shall each be surveyed in the form of a square or of a parallel-  
 14 ogram, the length of which shall not exceed three times its breadth.

1    Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That persons claiming lands  
 2 in either of the said districts, either under legal grants derived  
 3 from the French or British governments, or by virtue of any reso-  
 4 lution or act of congress, may, until the first day of August next,  
 5 give notice, in writing, to the register of the land office of their  
 6 claims, and have the evidence of the same recorded in the same  
 7 manner, and on payment of the fees, provided by the act entitled  
 8 “ An act making provision for the disposal of the public lands in  
 9 the Indiana territory, and for other purposes,” passed the 26th  
 10 March, 1804; and the right of any person neglecting to give  
 11 such notice in writing of his claim, and to have the evidence of  
 12 the same recorded, shall become void and forever be barred.

1   Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the registers and re-  
 2 ceivers aforesaid shall complete and transmit their reports to the  
 3 secretary of the treasury before the first day of December next.  
 4 Each of the said officers shall be allowed an additional compensa-  
 5 tion of five hundred dollars; and each of the clerks of the res-  
 6 pective boards, shall be allowed an additional compensation of  
 7 two hundred and fifty dollars, in full for his services as such in  
 8 relation to such claims.

1   Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the register and receiver  
 2 of public monies in the district of Cincinnati be, and they are here-  
 3 by authorized to grant certificates of a right of pre-emption to  
 4 any person residing on any reserved section (other than section  
 5 No. 16,) for the tract on which he resides, on the applicant's pro-  
 6 ducing satisfactory evidence that his claim was within the provisions  
 7 of the seventh section of an act entitled "An act making provision  
 8 for the disposal of the public lands in the Indiana territory, and for  
 9 other purposes": *Provided,* that the person shall exhibit the evi-  
 10 dence of his claim, and shall have paid at least one twentieth part  
 11 of the purchase money, on or before the first day of August next:  
 12 *And provided also,* that such certificates shall not be granted for  
 13 any lands previously granted or sold, or for a larger tract than a  
 14 quarter of a section, nor for any other tract than that on which he  
 15 resides, and shall be granted at the same price, and on the pay-  
 16 ments being made, as for other public lands sold at private sale.